

ARH 2050
Introduction to the Principles and History of Art I
Spring 2018

University of Florida, College of the Arts, School of Art + Art History
Tuesday and Thursday, 12:50-1:40pm, Fine Arts B (FAB) 103
Credit Hours: 3
Course Fee: \$10

Course Web Site: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>

Dr. Elizabeth Ross

Email: eross@arts.ufl.edu

Walk-in Office Hours: Thursdays, 2–4pm and by appointment

Office Location: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119a

Office Phone: (352) 273-3067

The fastest way to reach me is through email. I am very often away from my office phone and voicemail.

Course Description:

This course surveys the art and architecture of Europe, the Mediterranean basin, and the Near East from prehistory through the medieval era, situating works in the cultural context of their creation and reception. Lectures and section meetings introduce students to key concepts and issues of the discipline of art history, such as the political and social dimensions of art, representation of the body, architectural space and siting, style, gender, narrative, iconography, appropriation and historical reference, monumentality, the role of the viewer, and abstraction and resistance to representation.

This course and its continuation, ARH 2051, are gateways into the art history major/minor, and they are designed to prepare students for further study in art history. Many non-majors take this course, and they are equally welcome.

Teaching Assistant, Jennifer McAninch

Email: artzysmartzy@ufl.edu

Office Hours: TBA, FAC 125, and by appointment

Section 0337, Thursday, 3:00–3:50pm, FAC 116a

Section 0341, Thursday, 4:05–4:55pm, FAC 116a

Teaching Assistant, Mark Hodge

Email: mch22@ufl.edu

Office Hours: TBA, FAC 125, and by appointment

Section 6140, Friday, 9:35-10:25am, FAC 116a

Section 6129, Friday, 10:40-11:30pm, FAC 116a

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu> or (352) 392-157

University Police Department: (352) 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161.

Course Objectives:

Provide an overview of the history of art from prehistory to circa 1300 CE in Europe, the Mediterranean Basin, and the Near East.

Introduce students to the concepts, issues, methods, and vocabulary of the discipline of art history.

Inform students about the variety of social, cultural, and economic contexts in which art was produced and used in order to explain how these contexts affected the objects' form and function.

Heighten visual acuity and increase facility in analyzing works of art and architecture, as well as other aspects of the visual environment.

Course Policies:

Attendance and due dates. Please look at your calendar at the beginning of the semester to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays) that conflict with classes, due dates, or exams. If you do have a conflict, contact Dr. Ross in advance. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policy that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> .

Final Exam. The time and date of the final exam is fixed by the UF Registrar, not Dr. Ross. Do not schedule vacation or family travel or another activity to conflict with the Final Exam. There will be no early exams offered.

Classroom demeanor. No talking on cell phones, ringing or beeping, texting, Facebooking, tweeting, emailing, noisy or smelly eating, etc., during class. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Inappropriate behavior shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

Email. Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send. The instructors will email you through your UF email account. If your email box is full, her emails will be bounced back, and she will have no way to contact you. Please make sure to clean out your box to prevent this.

Accommodation. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to Dr. Ross when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course evaluations. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Academic Honesty:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. *If you have any questions or concerns, please ask me* (Dr. Ross).

UF’s policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. This means that cheating and plagiarism will be penalized, and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. During exams, personal items must be cleared from desks and chairs and placed in a bag on the floor, and phones must be turned off. For a discussion of how to avoid plagiarism, consult *Misuse of Sources* on the course web site. *If you have any questions, please ask me.* An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
% Equivalent	93+	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	59-

See the following web page for UF policies for assigning grade points: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Please note: A grade of C- (or below) will not count toward major requirements.

Course Requirements:

This course has a web site accessible through UF's e-Learning at <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. This syllabus, class handouts, assignments, readings, and images required for exams will be posted to the site.

Vocabulary quizzes — 6% of the final grade
In-class practice IDs and comparisons — 5% of the final grade
Take-home comparison — 14% of the final grade
Midterm Exam — 25% of the final grade
Final Exam — 35% of the final grade
Attendance and class participation — 15% of the final grade
“Misuse of Sources” quiz — Pass/Fail

EXAMS

Midterm Exam, Thursday, March 1, 12:50-1:40pm, FAB 103

Final Exam, **Thursday, May 3, 8-10pm**, FAB 103

The exams will require (1) identification and discussion of images presented in class and in the reading and (2) essay responses to questions about themes developed in class and in the readings. You can find sample exam instructions and study tips at the end of this syllabus.

QUIZZES—All quizzes take place in your discussion section.

Single Slide ID Quiz, January 25/26

Comparison Quiz, February 8/9

Classical Architecture Vocabulary Quiz, February 22/23

Medieval and Islamic Architecture Vocabulary Quiz, April 19/20

The first two quizzes will practice the two types of exam questions where you write about images: “Single Slide IDs” and “Comparisons.” There will also be two vocabulary quizzes.

PAPER

Take-Home Comparison, due Thursday, April 5, 12:50pm

This will be a 2- to 3-page (600- to 900-word) descriptive analysis of two works of art in UF's Harn Museum of Art. Instructions will be discussed in section on March 15/16.

In preparation for the paper, you will read a brief text: Gordon Harvey, “Misuse of Sources,” Chapter 3 of *Writing with Sources*, 2nd ed. (Indianapolis: Hackett, 2008), 29-44. You will then take a short online quiz. There is a link to the text on the <Home> page of the course web site. Access the quiz through the <Quizzes> link at the left of the course web site. You should **complete the online quiz by Wednesday, March 15**. You may take the quiz as many times as you need until you get all the questions right, but you must get all the questions right to pass the quiz (= 15 points). You will not receive a grade for the quiz, but you must pass the quiz to pass the course.

ATTENDANCE

Prompt attendance is required at all classes. Repeated unexcused absences or habitual tardiness will result in a lowering of your attendance and class participation grade. Attendance will be taken in lecture and section.

Readings:

There is no textbook for this course.

The course is divided into modules.

- Prehistory and the Art of Ancient Iraq
- Ancient Egyptian Art
- Art of the Ancient Aegean and Greece
- Etruscan and Ancient Roman Art
- Early Christian, Jewish, Byzantine, and Islamic Art
- Early Medieval and Carolingian Art
- Romanesque and Gothic Art

Each module has a page on the course web site in eLearning that lists ‘readings’ (which can be text, audio, video, virtual tours, etc.) associated with each lecture.

Each module page also links to a digital board of images for the module. These are the works of art that will be discussed in lecture. Clicking on an image brings up a page dedicated to that image with links to further information. The links are short descriptions of the object from a museum web site, museum catalog, or a similar source. There are also links to related images, such as detail views. Use the links as a virtual textbook to supplement the lectures, better understand the works of art, and review for exams.

Each image is tagged with the date of the lecture where it will be discussed. Look for the tag icon at the top left of the image board to sort the images according to their tags.

Students should complete the reading for each week before their section meeting.

Podcasts:

The linked readings include podcasts (audio recordings) from *A History of the World in 100 Objects* and *Living with the Gods*, two programs produced by the British Museum with the BBC, and from *In Our Time*, another BBC show. The links in eLearning take you to web sites where you can play or download the recordings. However, you may prefer to stream or download the podcast through your phone. They are available for free from iTunes and other podcatchers.

In the News and Recommended Links:

At the bottom of each module page, there are links to recent “In the News” stories from the last few years about works or themes studied in the course. These stories are entirely **optional**. Many of the “In the News” stories come from *The New York Times*, which offers you a free subscription through UF. In order to retrieve your free subscription, go to my.ufl.edu. After signing in, click on <Main Menu>, then click on <Quick Links>, and finally click on <NY Times>. From there, follow the directions. Please use your ufl.edu email address when signing up.

WEEK 1

January 9— Is There an Art History of Prehistory?

January 11— First Cities in Ancient Iraq

January 11/12—Section topic: Introduction

WEEK 2

January 16— The Assyrians and their Palaces

January 18— The Royal Afterlife in Old Kingdom Egypt

January 18/19—Section topic: Art and Politics in Assyria

WEEK 3

January 23— Egypt’s New Kingdom Temples

January 25— Continuity and Change in Egypt’s New Kingdom

January 25/26— **Quiz #1: Practice ID**

Section topic: The Body

WEEK 4

January 30— Art of the Ancient Aegean
February 1— The Classical Language of Architecture
February 1/2—Section topic: Style

WEEK 5

February 6— (Vase) Painting in Archaic and Classical Greece
February 8—Sculpture in Archaic and Classical Greece
February 8/9— **Quiz #2: Practice comparison**
Section topic: Elements of Classical Architecture

WEEK 6

February 13— Athens and the Acropolis
February 15— Alexander the Great and Hellenistic Art
February 15/16—Section topic: Art, Society, and Gender in Ancient Greece

WEEK 7

February 20—The Etruscans, the Roman Republic, and the Age of Augustus
February 22—The Roman Villa and its Painting
February 22/23— **Quiz #3: Classical architecture vocabulary**
Section topic: Midterm Review

WEEK 8

February 27—Imperial Rome
March 1— ****Midterm Exam****
March 1/2—No Section

Blue books will be provided at the exam.

The material from the February 27 lecture will **not** be included on the Midterm Exam, but it will appear on the Final Exam.

WEEK 9

March 6 and 8—No Class (Spring Break)
March 8/9— No Section

WEEK 10

March 13— Jewish and Early Christian Art in the Roman Empire
March 15— The Age of Justinian
March 15/16— **“Misuse of Sources” quiz completed online by today**
Midterm Exam returned in class
Instructions for take-home comparison discussed

WEEK 11

March 20— Byzantine Ravenna
March 22— Icon and Iconoclasm in New Rome
March 22/23— Section topic: Sacred Space and Monumentality in Rome and Byzantium

WEEK 12

March 27— Three Religions in Jerusalem
March 29— Istanbul and Islamic Spain
March 29/30— Section topic: Jerusalem and Elements of Islamic Architecture

WEEK 13

April 3— Barbarians and their Books

April 5— Another New Rome: Charlemagne

****Take-home comparison due before class (12:50pm)****

April 5/6—Section topic: The Arts of the Book

WEEK 14

April 10— Romanesque Pilgrimage Churches and Monasteries

April 12— Telling Stories in the Romanesque

April 12/13— Section topic: Elements of Pilgrimage, Monastic, and Imperial Architecture

WEEK 15

April 17— Stone Skeletons and Stained Glass: The Gothic Cathedral

April 19— New Jerusalems in Gothic Paris

April 19/20— **Quiz #4: Christian and Islamic architecture vocabulary**

Section topic: Church Portal Programs

WEEK 16

April 24— The Spiritual Example of Saint Francis

April 26/27— Section Topic: Final Exam Review (attendance optional)

Jennifer's sections, 0337 and 0341, Thursday, TBA

Marks's sections, 6129 and 6140, Friday, TBA

****FINAL EXAM****

Thursday, May 3, 8–10pm in FAB 103

Blue books will be provided at the exam.

Academic Resources:

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess>

WHAT ARE THE EXAMS GOING TO BE LIKE?

For Parts I and II, images will be projected onto the screen at the front of the exam room. As in lecture, there will be no text on the screen with the images. You will have to identify the images and write about them. You will *not* be required to memorize *every* image on the image boards. About a week before each exam, a master slide list of all the testable images will be posted to the course web for you to view, print out, and study. You need to memorize the information to identify each image as given on the slide list, but you will also need to associate concepts and information from class and the reading with each image.

Many of you will not have taken an exam with this type of “slide question” before. Therefore, there will be two quizzes in section to let you practice this type of question before the first exam. On Thursday/Friday, January 25/26, you will take a quiz with the type of question in Part I, “Single Slide IDs.” On Thursday/Friday, February 8/9, you will take a quiz with the type of question in Part II, “Slide Comparisons.”

Sample Midterm Exam Instructions

Answer all questions using complete sentences, not bullet points.

Part I – Single Slide IDs, 3 @ 5 minutes each

Identify the slide with the information provided on the slide list: maker (if known), title, date, and place where made. Write a brief essay about the most important aspects of the image.

Part II – Slide Comparisons, 2 @ 10 minutes each

Identify each slide with the information provided on the slide list: maker (if known), title, date, and place where made. Write an essay in which you compare and contrast the slides. Remember to write an integrated discussion of the images; do not analyze them in isolation from one another.

Part III – Essay, 15 minutes

Choose ONE of the following questions and write an essay in which you incorporate materials from lecture and course readings, as they apply. Before writing, you may want to take a few minutes to outline the major points of your essay. Use specific examples. Try to avoid repeating your answers for Parts I and II.

Exam Study Tips

1. Go through the slide list and for each slide ask yourself:

- What is shown here?
- Why is it important or interesting?
- What course themes does it address?
- What was the function of this work?
- What are its most striking visual qualities?
- How does the work involve the viewer?
- How does the work relate to its site?
- What symbolism is shown in the work?
- What were the political, religious, social, or cultural meanings of the different elements of the work?
- What other works relate to this one? Which come from the same site, from the same period, or have similar imagery?
- What other cultural or historical context helps us understand the meaning of this work?

If the slide were presented as an ID question, what would you say? Pull material from your class notes and textbook.

2. You can use the slides to help you study the larger course themes addressed in the comparisons and essays. Group slides by culture and ask how the works each elucidate different aspects of that culture’s history, religion, and aesthetics. Make a list of course themes (start with the section topics), and then ask, “Which slides address this theme?” Group slides from different periods and cultures that share the same function, iconography, theme, etc.—for example, slides of sacred spaces, royal spaces or persons, works that negotiate the afterlife, or works that demonstrate technological innovation or achievement. Within these groups, would any pairs of slides make good comparisons? Could you construct an essay around any of these groups of slides?
3. Memorize the identifying info for each slide on the exam slide list.